

## Security Message

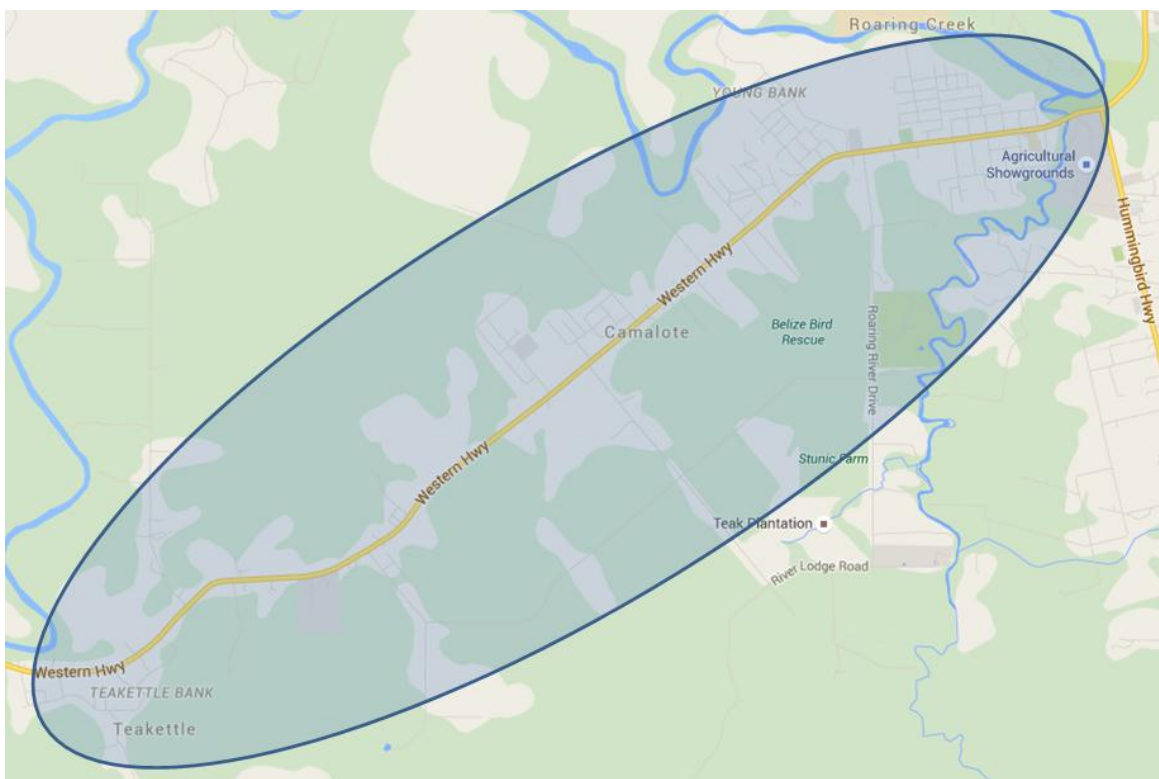
### Information for Travelers and Residents

#### U.S. Embassy Belmopan, Belize

May 10, 2015

#### Increase in Violent Crime in the Area Between Roaring Creek and Teakettle

In light of a recent rise in violent crime, the Embassy urges U.S. citizens to use extra caution while transiting the area between Roaring Creek and Teakettle. There is no evidence to suggest that U.S. citizens are being targeted. The Embassy reminds U.S. citizens of the security best practices outlined below. **The specific area of concern, where eleven murders have taken place since January 1, 2015, is highlighted below:**



We remind U.S. citizens that Belize is a country that suffers from an unusually high crime rate. U.S. citizens should exercise caution and be aware of their surroundings at all time.

### ***Security Best Practices:***

Schedules that are the most predictable leave you the most vulnerable. Be unpredictable when possible in both your work and social schedules.

Always be aware of your surroundings.

In traffic, always attempt to leave space in which to maneuver. Always leave yourself an exit. Be prepared to take evasive action at any time.

Avoid choke points in travel. Be wary of diversions.

If you are being followed or harassed by another driver, try to find the nearest police station, hotel, or other public facility. Never lead the person back to your home, and never ever stop or get out.

Whenever possible, do not have a set day for shopping, errands and personal needs. Be unpredictable.

Never give out your personal information, such as family member and household staff names, addresses and telephone numbers in an open setting. Brief your household staff not to discuss your personal business outside of your home.

Travel information is also available at [travel.state.gov](http://travel.state.gov). Up-to-date information on security can also be obtained by calling 1-888-407-4747 toll-free in the United States and Canada or, for callers outside the United States and Canada, a regular toll line at 1-202-501-4444.

For the latest security information, U. S. citizens living and traveling abroad should regularly monitor the Department's Bureau of Consular Affairs Internet web site at <http://travel.state.gov>, where the current Worldwide Caution, Travel Alerts, Travel Warnings, and health information resources can be found. Up-to-date information on security can also be obtained by calling 1-888-407-4747 toll free in the U.S. and Canada or, for inquirers in other areas, by calling a regular toll line at 1-202-501-4444. These numbers are available from 8:00am to 8:00pm Eastern Time, Monday through Friday (except U.S. federal holidays). Follow us on Twitter and the Bureau of Consular Affairs' page on Facebook as well.

U.S. citizens living in or traveling to Belize are encouraged to enroll with the U.S. Embassy through the State Department's Smart Traveler Enrollment Program (STEP) at <https://step.state.gov>.

The U.S. Embassy is located at #4 Floral Park Road, Belmopan City, Belize; Tel: 501-822-4011 8:00am to 5:00pm—or for emergencies after hours, weekends, and holidays at 501-610-5030, Fax: 501-822-4050; E-mail: [ACSBelize@state.gov](mailto:ACSBelize@state.gov); Website: <https://Belize.usembassy.state.gov>.